

Application No. to be assigned  
In re Application of HIRATA  
Preliminary Amendment

**REMARKS**

The foregoing Preliminary Amendments comply with U.S. Patent practice and no new subject matter is added. Examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 8/8/06

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Rodman Steele, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

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